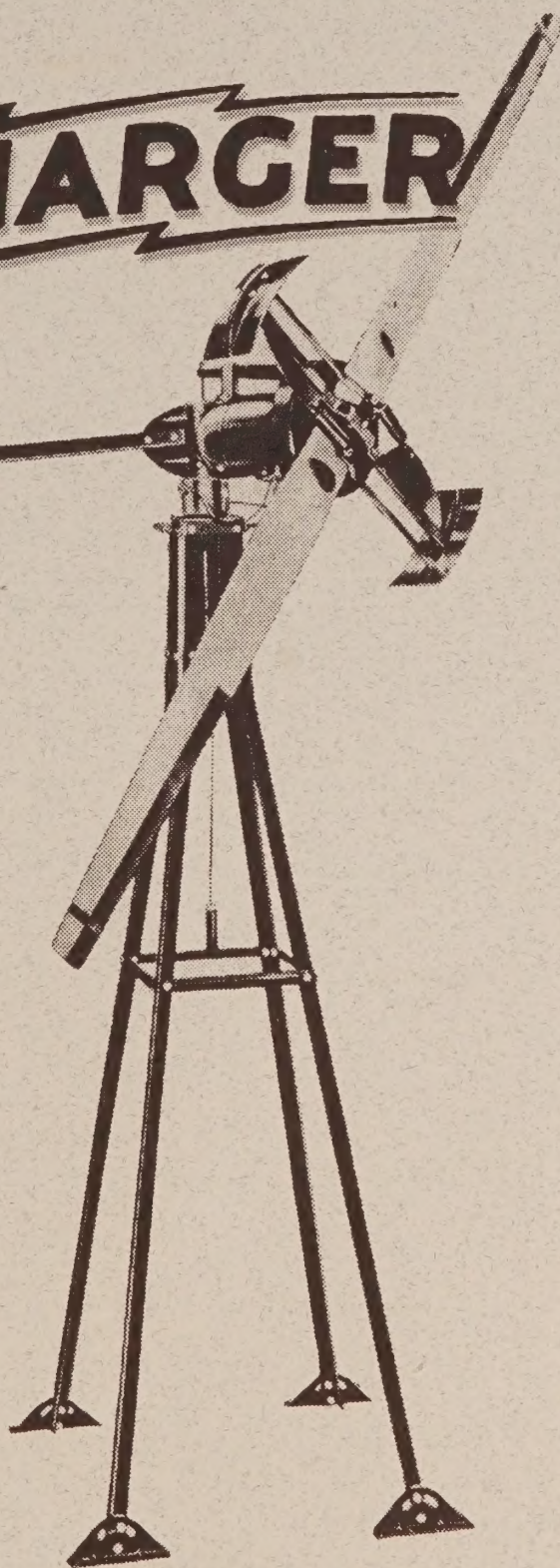
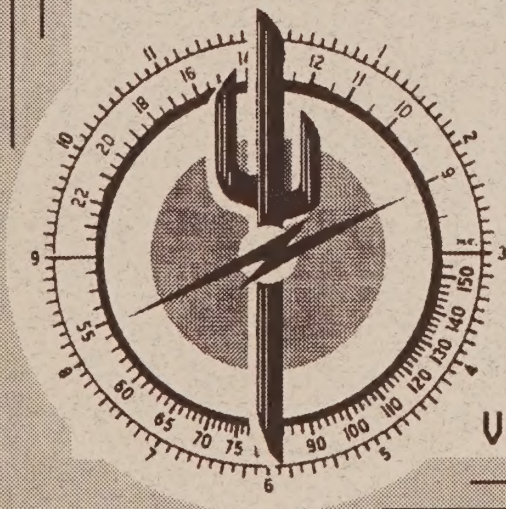
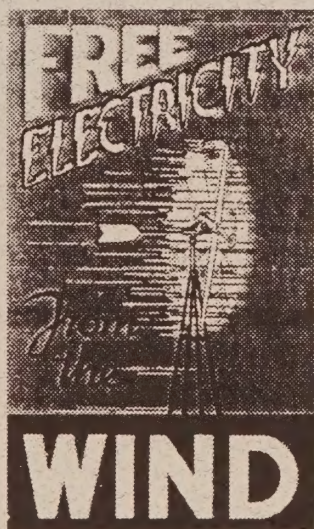


ARIZONA ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB NEWS

WINCHARGER



Vol XVII, No 2 Summer 2000

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by Andy Ooms

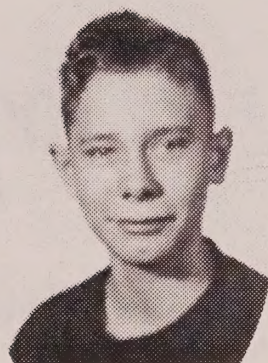
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DIRECTORY

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THE WINCHARGER MEANT UNLIMITED RADIO LISTENING FOR HOMES WITHOUT ELECTRICITY. AFTER RURAL ELECTRIFICATION, THERE WERE NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO BE FOUND. SEE PAGE 6.



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ARIZONA ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB NEWS

Vol XVII, No 2 Summer 2000



Arizona Antique Radio Club

The Arizona Antique Radio Club was organized in 1983 for the preservation of the history and artifacts of radio and television, and for the advancement of knowledge and appreciation of radio technology and communication. The Club is a non-profit corporation organized primarily for the mutual assistance of radio devotees and collectors in Arizona. Membership, however, is open to any persons who have an interest in radio and television history, preservation, restoration, and collecting.

Meetings are held from October through May and consist of touring collections, presentations of technical, historical or restoration information, thematic displays of radios and the autobiographical experiences of the members. Our antique radio Swap Meets are scheduled for Spring and Fall meetings. Members of the Board of Directors are elected at the annual business meeting in May. Most meetings are held on Saturdays in the Phoenix and Tucson areas, and when possible, elsewhere within Arizona.

Membership dues are \$18 (individual) or \$20 (family) per calendar year and provide access to all club benefits including the quarterly issues of the *Radio Club News*. Send dues or membership inquiries to: **Arizona Antique Radio Club, 10513 E. Clinton, Scottsdale, AZ, 85259, phone (602) 860-8951.**

The Arizona Antique Radio Club News is the quarterly publication of the Arizona Antique Radio Club, Inc. It is mailed First Class to current members.

Contributions: submission of articles, news items, fiction, photographs and other materials relating to radio history and collecting are greatly appreciated, particularly if they have an Arizona connection. All members are encouraged to broaden their interest in the hobby by sharing their experiences, opinions, knowledge and observations with the club through its publication. Send materials for publication to **Arizona Antique Radio Club, 2025 E. LaJolla Dr., Tempe, Arizona, 85282-5910. Phone is 480-730-6058. Email: lettow@yahoo.com.**

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2000~2001 AARC Schedule of Events

POT-LUCK PICNIC SHOW, TELL and PLAY

Saturday, October 14, 4pm; Home of Cal Lidback, 440 S. 31st St, Mesa.

Kick off the new season with a pot-luck picnic and get-together for all members and their significant others. New members are especially invited.

For once we'll be turning those old radios on and listening to them. Bring your best *playing* radios, especially ones that took some effort to make play beautifully. We'll hear the story and then turn the thing on. With luck, it will sound great.

More details coming. Contact: Dave Lambert.

FALL SWAP MEET

Saturday, November 4, 8am; Antique Electronic Supply, Tempe.

Our biggest swap meet of the year, Consignment Auction and Lunch. We need quality auction items, and would welcome donated items to be auctioned for the benefit of the club.

Swap meet spaces are free to members, \$5 for non-members.

Contact: Carl Roberts.

DECEMBER MEETING

Saturday, December 2, tentative program on California Radios, other details TBA.

TUCSON SWAP MEET

Saturday, January 27, 2001, 8am; Dave's Antique Service, 3210 S. Dodge #11, Tucson.

Swap meet spaces are free to members, \$5 for non-members.

RADIO ROUNDUP

Saturday, February 24, details TBA.

This years theme: Novelty and Pop-Culture radios of all eras. Novelty radios have been produced from the early days to the present.

Awards to be given, contest catagories TBA.

SPRING SWAP MEET

Saturday, March 24, Phoenix area, details TBA

APRIL MEETING

Saturday, April 21, Dave Lambert's House, Elections, other details TBA

MAY (LAST) MEETING

Saturday, May 19, details TBA

Harry Snyder W7HC



Harry Snyder, W7HC (ex W0NVE, W0RN) of Carefree, Arizona became a Silent Key Friday, July 21, 2000.

Harry was first licensed in 1946 at the age of 19 as W0NVE. He served in the Merchant Marine as a radio operator during WW II. After the war he had a TV repair business along with a Motorola 2-way radio service station. Before moving to Arizona from Fremont, Nebraska, Harry owned and operated three broadcast radio stations; KHUB in Fremont, Nebraska, KLGA in Algona, Iowa and WZOE in Princeton, Illinois. He was chief engineer of KORN (later KHUB) at age 16.

Harry was active in QCWA as Vice President of the Barry M. Goldwater, Arizona Chapter 16 as well as being

a member of the ARRL for over 50 years. He was also a member of the OOTC and the Society of Wireless Pioneers. Harry was an avid collector of Collins equipment and belonged to the Collins Collectors Association and was well known to other collectors as an expert in the repair of Collins KWM 380s as well as HF 380s. Many Hams benefited from his extensive knowledge of electronics and he was always ready and willing to help.

Aside from a remarkable career in radio, Harry took time to serve the community as Chairman of the Carefree Planning and Zoning Commission and was very active in the local Kiwanis Club. He also had a great love of organ music, pipe organs as well as electronic and was very

knowledgeable in the installation and maintenance of them. The Valley of the Sun American Theater Organ Society (VOTSATOS) benefited from his knowledge of electronics and love of theater organs and music as he spent many hours on the restoration of the Phoenix Orpheum Theater organ.

-Gerry Higgins

After joining the AARC in 1990, Harry was a well known character at meetings and swap meets and served for several years on the Board of Directors.

Harry really stood out at ham meets always wearing his Hawaiian shirts. His booming personality could sometimes be intimidating but this is how I learned of the man underneath:

I once sold Harry a Drake radio at a swap meet. I didn't know what I had, it received SSB only, and I couldn't even tell if it was working. I had no idea what it was worth.

Harry took an interest in the set but as usual he was a bit cagey about the details. He said it needed a lot of work. He said it was of limited interest to collectors. He pointed out various irregularities with the set. As a favor, he would buy the set from me.

After selling it, I didn't know if I had made a mistake or not. Like some antique radio transactions, this one seemed best forgotten as soon as possible.

I was reminded of the sale about two years later, at another swap meet. That's when Harry came up to me

and shoved a wad of 50s into my hand. He said he had resold the Drake and thought I should share in the profits.

-Bill Lettow

Lew McCoy, W1ICP

Lew McCoy, a friend to radio amateurs worldwide, passed away in late July. He had only recently moved to Arizona after a long and noteworthy career writing for *QST*, working since 1949 for the ARRL, and being a goodwill ambassador for amateur radio.

Club members were just beginning to get to know Lew. He spoke at our May 1999 meeting when we learned that the stories he told in two hours were only the tiny tip of a huge iceberg of entertaining reminiscences.

Lew took advantage of his ability to explain technical concepts in simple terms, leaving his mark on future generations of amateurs as *QST*'s "Beginner and Novice" editor. When television was becoming popular in the early 1950s, Lew became the ARRL expert on television interference, and he travelled the country demonstrating cures for TVI. He was also a proponent of the no-code ham license for beginners.

There will be a memorial service for Lew in December, details aren't yet available.

Dr. Robert G. Delph

We received word that this long time member from Sun City also passed away this summer. 



NARD'S RADIONICS

FARM RADIOS (AND OTHER MUSINGS)

BY ANDY OOMS

As I have previously written in an article for this publication, since the age of 4 (which age I achieved in 1942), I have been interested in many forms of radio. These forms include short wave listening, AM Dxing, current AM and FM programming, antique AM, FM, and short wave sets, old time radio programming, and just plain listening.

You may notice that there are no technical aspects of the radio hobby in my list. That is because I claim no technical expertise, and my electronic knowledge is very limited, especially in comparison to the technical abilities of those of you with careers as engineers or electronic technicians. Just plain listening is what I do

best. This is in spite of the fact that, as we all know, or at least as many of us believe, current medium wave (AM band) and FM broadcasting is nowhere nearly as interesting as broadcasting could be, nor as interesting as I believe it once was. Negative aspects of today's programming include narrowcasting demographics focus, satellite music instead of live local or network talent or programs, sound-alike and mediocre music, and apparently a targeted audience ranging from the 6th through the 10th grades. All right, I admit it; my age is showing.

I know that many of you are as fascinated by radio as I am; I don't claim to be unique at all in that respect. Also, I defer to those of you who have more technical knowledge than I do. And note that I write as I remember; if it appears that I have made an error in historical or electronic fact, when the reader begs to differ, then the reader is probably right.

During my high school years in South Dakota, I had a small used radio sales and repair business operated out of my home. My timing was good as in those early 50s most radio repairs involved soldering loose connections, replacing line cords or speakers, fine tuning variable condensers (now probably called capacitors), or replacing tubes. All of the above I could do. I did not get into the science of understanding circuitry or make the investment required for obtaining the test equipment necessary to determine faulty caps, resistors, transformers, and

condensers. I could read a schematic, but not well or willingly. Note that transistors are not mentioned; they had been developed by then, but were not yet part of household electronics items.

Another reason that the early fifties were good for my little business is that in the late forties, the Rural Electrification Agency began bringing 110-volt AC current to most farms in South Dakota and probably throughout western rural America. Line current had been on the farm in the more populated east for some years before then. Until about 1948, my uncles, aunts, and cousins living on farms near my town did without normal electricity. Looking back, that seems surprising to me. At the time however, it was not in the least noteworthy. Even in town, we did not have indoor restrooms at home, school, our small-town businesses, or local churches. My grandparents lived in town, but did not have running water. They used a hand pump in the kitchen sink, which drew from a rain water cistern outside. Our household bathroom was installed in 1950, when I was in 7th grade. Running water indoors was generally limited to kitchen sinks and washing machine hookups. Within that context, not having 110 volts AC on the farm didn't seem remarkable.

Farmers without access to AC electricity coped in various ways. Some of my relatives used kerosene or white gas lamps. The gas lamps had fragile mantles; the kerosene lamps used sturdy wicks. Stoves were wood, kerosene, or gas. The gas stoves and

lamps needed pre-lighting pumping to produce the required pressure; consequently there seemed to be an element of risk of explosion or fire when using them. That risk was largely theoretical, if the equipment was used properly. The stoves were also used in many homes in town that had electricity, although at least the option of electric stoves existed. Needless to say, on those farms, flashlights, batteries, and gasoline engines were critically important items. There was no natural gas available in that area.

Some farms had wind-charger systems. South Dakota has a fine supply of wind; after centuries of use of this resource, no signs of depletion are yet evident. Wind-charger systems delivered 32 volts direct current, which was used to charge batteries. It is likely more accurate to state that the systems delivered electricity, which was stored in batteries that delivered 32 volts DC.

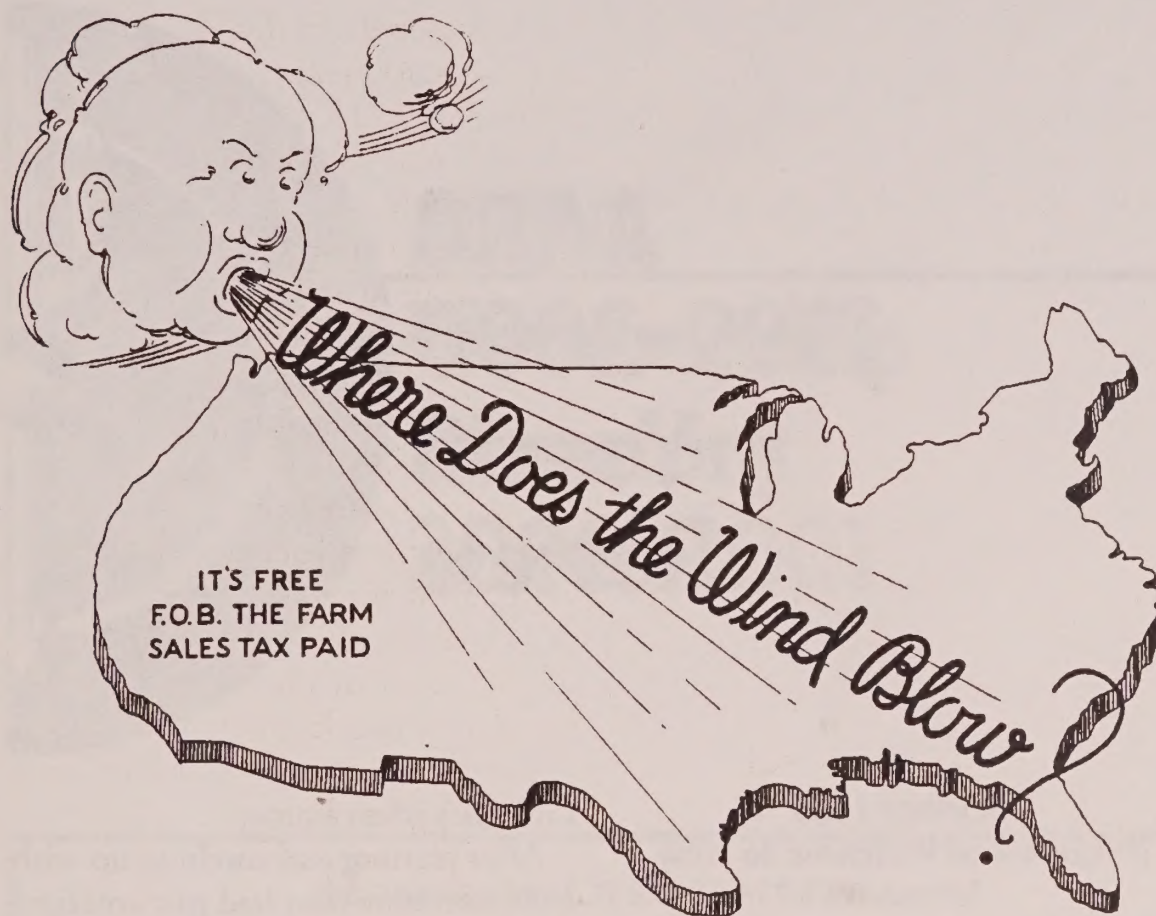
From the 20s until the early 50s, Sears Roebuck and Montgomery Ward catalogs had many pages of farm radios. Farm radios were not shoddy or second class as to features or style. Some were consoles; many were multi-band, meaning, in those pre-FM days, having short-wave capability; and most had handsome Bakelite or wood cabinets. Most had a place of honor in the living room, and had big speakers with full tones meant for listening by the whole family in larger furniture-filled rooms. These were either 32-volt DC sets, or battery-operated sets. In those days, A, B, and sometimes C, batteries

were required. In the pre-solid state era, batteries were fairly heavy, large, expensive, and had a short life. Home battery chargers were unknown to most people.

Under those conditions, pre-electrification radio usage for those not fortunate enough to have a wind charger system was generally limited to big non-portable sets used for full-attention listening to specific programs. Batteries were too costly to waste on mere background sounds, so listening was rationed. Frequently listening was limited to prime time (an unheard of phrase at the time) evening network programs with the entire family as a living room audience. Another typical listening habit was local news, farm markets, and weather reports with the volume turned up loud enough to hear while eating breakfast or lunch, in kitchen or dining room.

Why was the advent of rural electrification good for my fledgling amateur business? With 110-volt capability, farmers suddenly found new uses for radio. All day listening to soap operas by housekeepers while trying to keep up with homemaking chores, long an indulgence of town and city dwellers, became an economically feasible activity on the farm. All day listening with battery sets had been prohibitively expensive. The family children, of all ages, could listen for hours at no noticeable cost, so radios for bedrooms and common area rooms additional to living rooms became desirable.

Usually however, the second radio on the farm, after the family living



Drawing from the Wincharger Corporation sales manual.

room set, got sent to the barn. Almost all of the farms in the area were general, producing meats, grains, eggs, and milk. So, one or more members of virtually every farm family spent from one to three hours (depending on number of dairy cattle, and depending on whether a new-fangled milking machine had already been purchased) every morning and every evening, 7 per week, 52 per year, in the barn. Appropriate programming for these occasions was available as well as the ever important markets and weather in the morning; polka bands, *Amos and Andy*, *One Man's Family*, or *The Lone Ranger* (obviously dependent on who controlled the dial) in the evening as a transition from work time to leisure time.

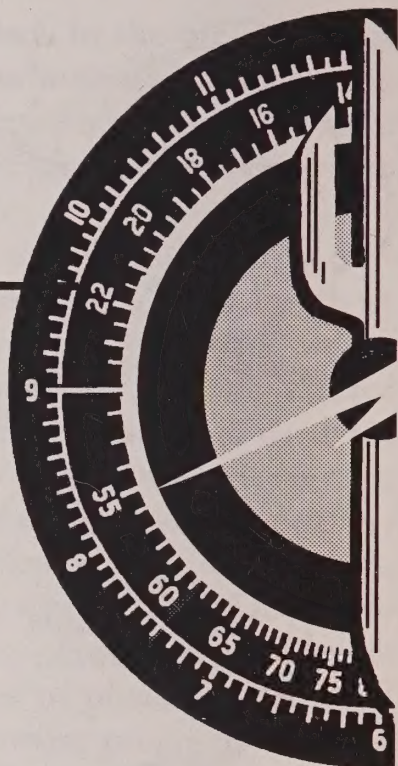
My uncle Hans, a Chicago radio shop owner, gave me a car trunk full of working used table model sets to take back to South Dakota on one of our annual trips to visit our relatives. Those radios, more than a dozen, became the nucleus of my used radio business. I placed an ad under the barber shop mirror for \$4.00 per year reading:

NARD'S RADIONICS
USED RADIOS FOR SALE
RADIOS REPAIRED

The business name came from my childhood nickname derived from Bernard, my middle name. Radionics is a name that caught my attention I guess, probably from seeing it in

Nard's continues on page 34

AARC 1999~2000 Year in Review

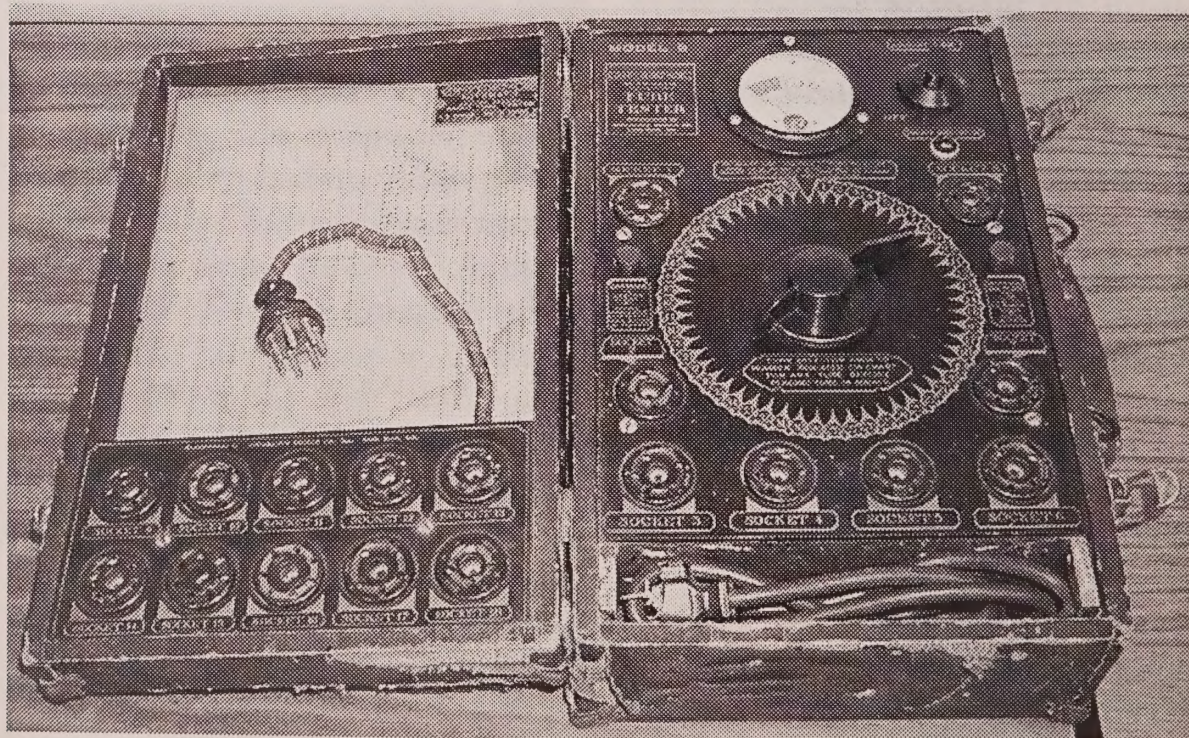


October 1999 Potluck and Welcome to New Members

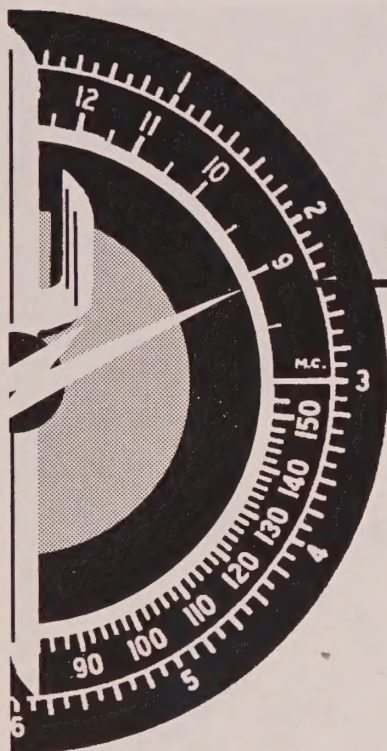
Our 1999-2000 year got off to a great start with a very well attended potluck in the large backyard of Cal

Lidback's Mesa home.

After feasting and catching up with club members who had just emerged from summer hibernation, we went into the one-room schoolhouse on the property and listened to some talks



An early tube tester displayed at the December meeting.



AARC

Membership Directory 2000~2001

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

W. E. ADAMS
FRANK FALKNER
GEORGE HUETHER
P.A.KINZIE
LESTER RAYNER
ROBERT VERNON

CHARLES BRELSFORD
GEORGE H. FATHAUER
HARRY HYDER
FORREST PEARCE
MAURY SIEVERS
CLYDE WATSON

Underlined names are 1983 Charter Members of the club.

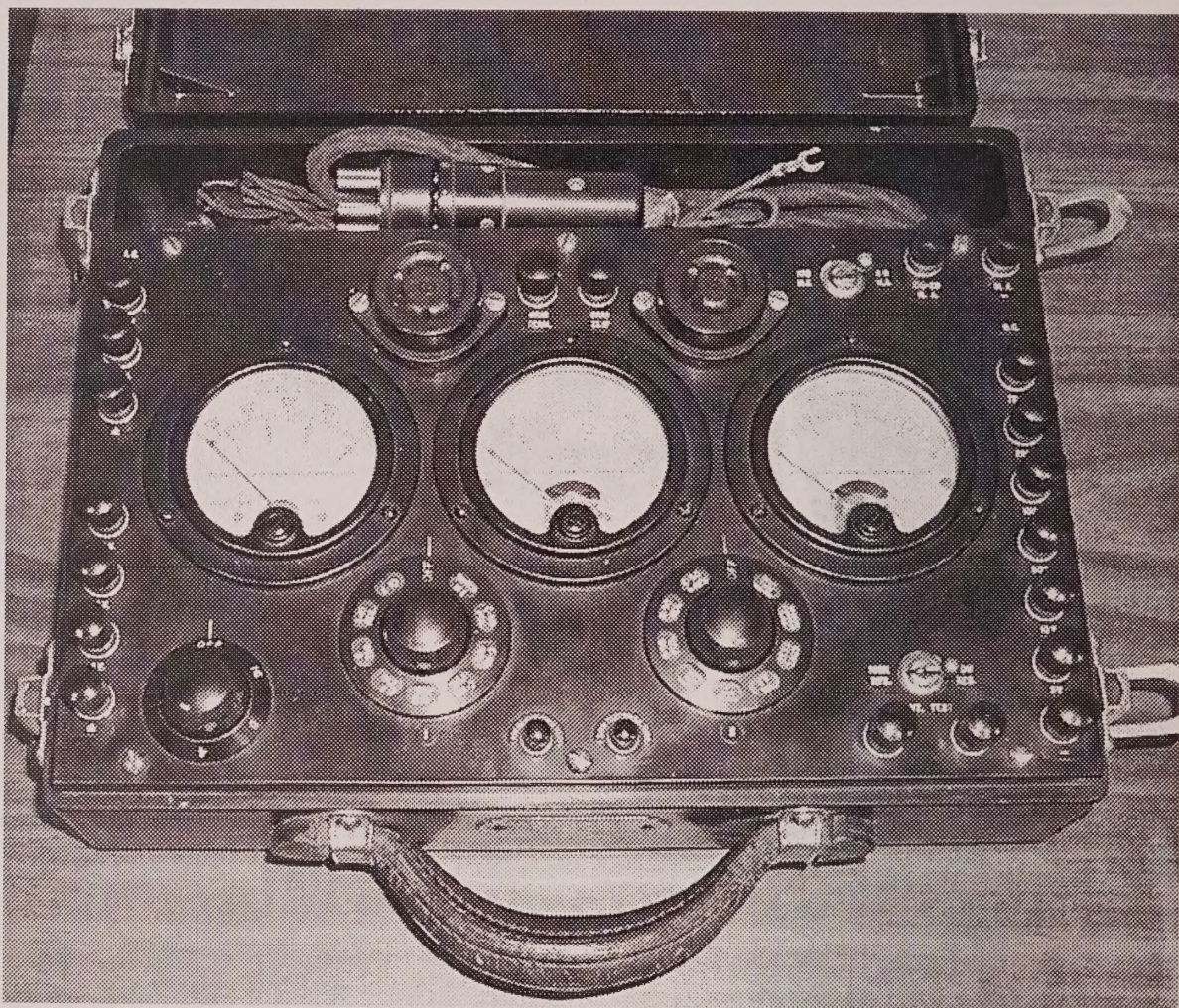
Walter L Anderson, 2427 Lexington Rd, Falls Church, VA 22043,
(703)560-6227, knwa@erols.com

Antique Electronic Supply, 6221 S Maple, Tempe, AZ 85283, 820-5411,
info@tubesandmore.com

Bob and Paula Bakinowski, 1524 S St Tropaz Pl, Tucson AZ 85713,
(520)624-8029

Richard and Betty Barter, 2705 Gene Littler, El Paso, TX 79936,
(915)593-0148, bbarter781@aol.com

Rick and Sandra Barton, 16635 N Cave Creek Rd #123, Phoenix, AZ
85032, 493-3380



Another great early tester brought by Bob Grinder to the December meeting.

for beginning collectors.

George H. Fathauer spoke on getting started in tube collecting. He mentioned current sources for tubes and how prices for some rare tubes have been climbing very fast. DeForest Audions may now sell in the \$1500-2000 range.

Dave Lambert talked on how to price radios, evaluating condition, collector interest and the extra related items which can add value to a set. But objective analysis aside, the price of a radio most often comes down to how badly someone wants it.

Finding radios was the subject of Martin Bergan's talk. His top hints:

don't buy a radio sight unseen, unless you have good pictures or know your seller well. On catalin radios, Martin's speciality, he reminded us that a repaired set is worth only a fraction of a mint original.

Restoration was Dennis Craft's topic. He ran down the supplies needed to repair radios and again reminded us to keep steel wool away from radio chassis. We were advised to listen closely because we were given a test afterword! Some members may be asked to retest until they get all the answers correct.

continued

- Bill Becker, 3625 E Ray Rd #2028, Phoenix, AZ 85044, (480)706-2095
- Martin D Bergan, Jr, 2011 E Flynn Ln, Phoenix, AZ 85016-1113,
(602)274-5895, DrRadi0@aol.com
- Donald S Beyer, 6702 E Hubbell St, Scottsdale, AZ 85257, (480)945-7819
- Peter Beyer, onetime42@webtv.com
- Tom Boza, 13609 49th Pl., Scottsdale, AZ, 85254-3505
- Walter H. Brendecke, 3028 N. 47th Pl., Phoenix, AZ, 85018, (602)840-010,
sirwalt@home.com
- Francis R Brown, 4001 E Blacklidge #17, Tucson, AZ 85712, (520)325-6826,
713 Delmar St, Sterling, CO 80751-4513
- Charles and Doris Brelsford, 2625 E Southern Av C-89, Tempe, AZ
85282-7670, (480)831-3759, cbrelsford@juno.com
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- Doug and Ronda Chance, 3519 N Geronimo, Tucson, AZ 85705-3613,
(520)888-9448, chancedoug@hotmail.com
- James O Coleman, Box 2348, Pasadena, CA 91102, (626)810-1818,
jimcoleman@hotmail.com
- Branson Cook, Jr, 108 Spruce Ln, Mount Holly, NJ 08060, (609)267-1399
- Randy and Desnie Copleman, 4275 N. Osage Ln., Tucson, AZ, 85718
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(480)860-8951, dcraft@uswest.net
- Norman Crane, 12020 E Snyder Rd, Tucson, AZ 85749-9075,
(520)749-9140



Bud Radiometer at December meeting

November 1999 16th Annual Fall Swap Meet

Antique Electronic Supply was, for the 16th consecutive year, the generous host of our Fall Swap Meet. Attendance was on a par with previous years, the addition of free food

and an auction kept most people around longer than usual.

The auction of donated and consigned items was quite a success in terms of the number of pounds of items moved and it made \$850 for the club.

Edward M Culberson, Jr, 9024 N Clover Wy, Tucson, AZ 85743-8944,
(520)744-2924, skipthe1st@aol.com

Bob Davies K7BHM, 526 E Krista Wy, Tempe, AZ 85284, (480)839-3728,
bdavies@speedfam.com

Don DeCuir, 3596 Quail Run, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635, (520)458-8316,
(520)456-4556 , (wk)

Charles DeFir, 450 N. 23rd St., Mesa, AZ, 85213, (480)610-8495,
charliedefir@att.net

Dr Robert G Delph, 10826 Alabama, Sun City, AZ 85351, (623)933-1241

Paul Dennis, P O Box 5186, Tucson, AZ 85703, (520)743-7755,
pdennis@northlink.com

Gary F. Denton and Judy Johansson, 1300 Saratoga Ave. #912, Ventura,
CA 93003, (805)339-9460

Michael J Doles, 27632 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix, Az 85027-7624,
(602)582-4122

Charles R Dotson, 503 E Palm Box 73, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340,
(623)935-4408

Joel L Ekstrom, P O Box 391, Cabin John, MD 20818-0391,
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George A Fathauer, 13051 S 35th St, Phoenix, AZ 85044, (480)893-6689,
snrnpub@aol.com

George H and Helen Fathauer, 1550 Bel Air Dr, Mesa, AZ 85201,
964-6920

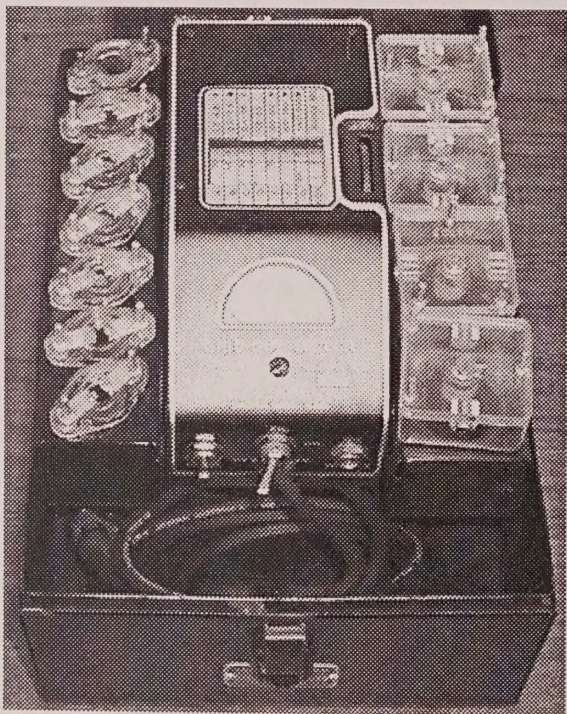
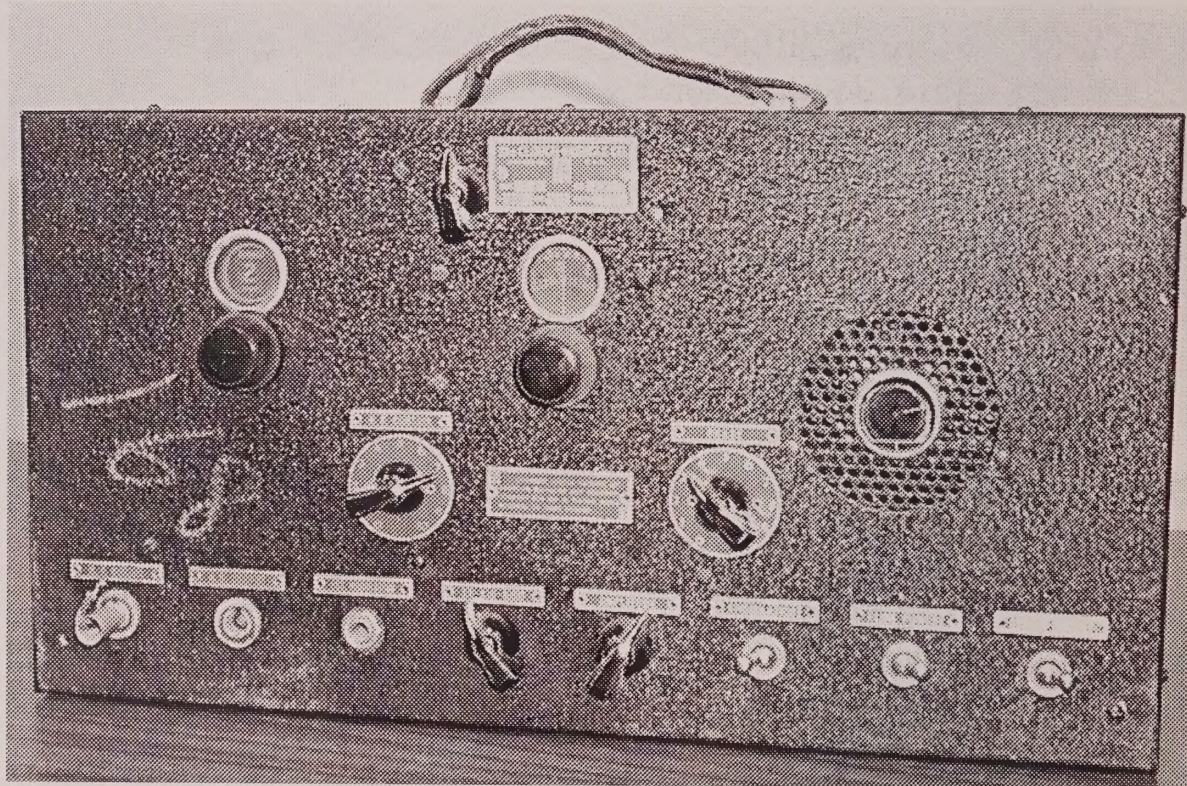
Lynn and Nancy Fischer, 1925 E Lynwood St, Mesa, AZ 85203,
(480)833-1118, lf11175@aol.com

Art and Evelyn Fisher, 708 W. Northview, Phoenix, AZ 85021, (602)
943-6192

Miner Fleming, 5527 E Harmony Av, Mesa, AZ 85206, (480)218-5477,
wcco@uswest.net

David M Franklin, 2513 E Verde Ln, Phoenix, AZ 85016-7917,
(602)955-8097

John Fox, Box 340, Overgaard, AZ, 85933-0340



More interesting test gear brought by members in December.

December 1999 Meeting Test Equipment

We had another well attended event in December, at the Pyle Activity Center in Tempe. this was a program on antique test equipment, a topic new to the club.

Bob Grinder gave us a good background on this area of collecting and he brought many pieces to display from his large collection. Prices are still quite reasonable on test equipment and it can still be found fairly easily. Like other areas of collecting,

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(602)944-3019, desertrg@aol.com

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ralphgg@uswest.net

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04043

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(480)966-3156

Ted and Dorinda Hartson, 10012 N.77th St., Scottsdale, AZ 85258, (480)
483-0842, awombat@ibm.net

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Gerald E Higgins W7ES, 8602 Dogleg Dr Box 5345, Carefree, AZ
85377-5345, 488-2650, ghigg03225@aol.com

Mike and Carol Hilton, 401 N Schrader Ln, Tucson, AZ 85748,
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Cecil N Hooper, 2125 W Mariposa, Phoenix, AZ 85015, (602)242-4284

George Huether, Scenic Hills Care Center, 311 E First St, Ferdinand,
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Norman Jerome, 2914 W Campo Bello Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85053-1917,
(602)993-6766, normmaryj@juno.com

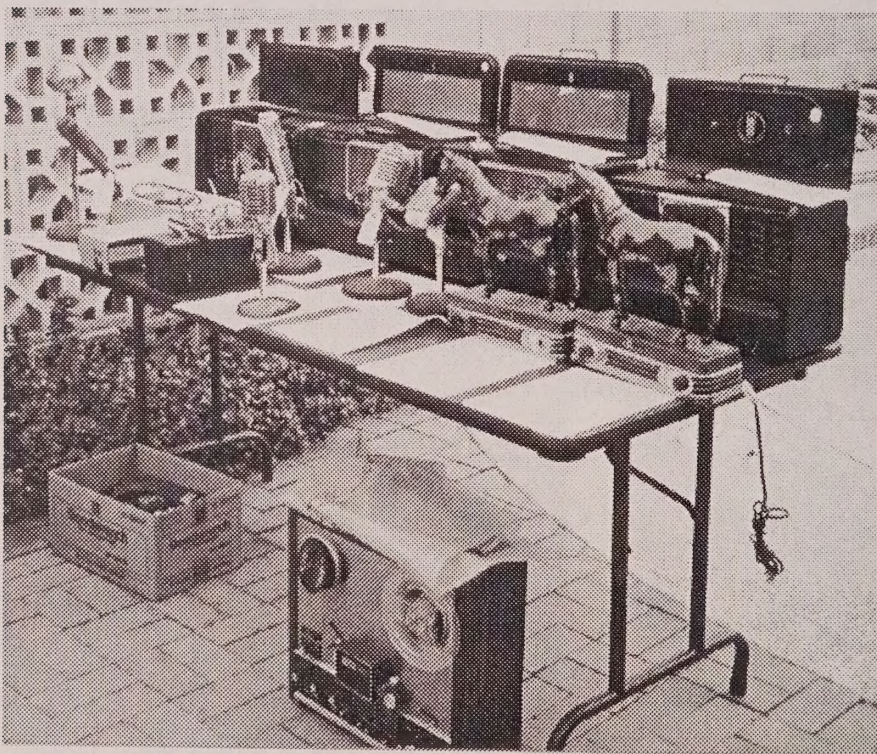
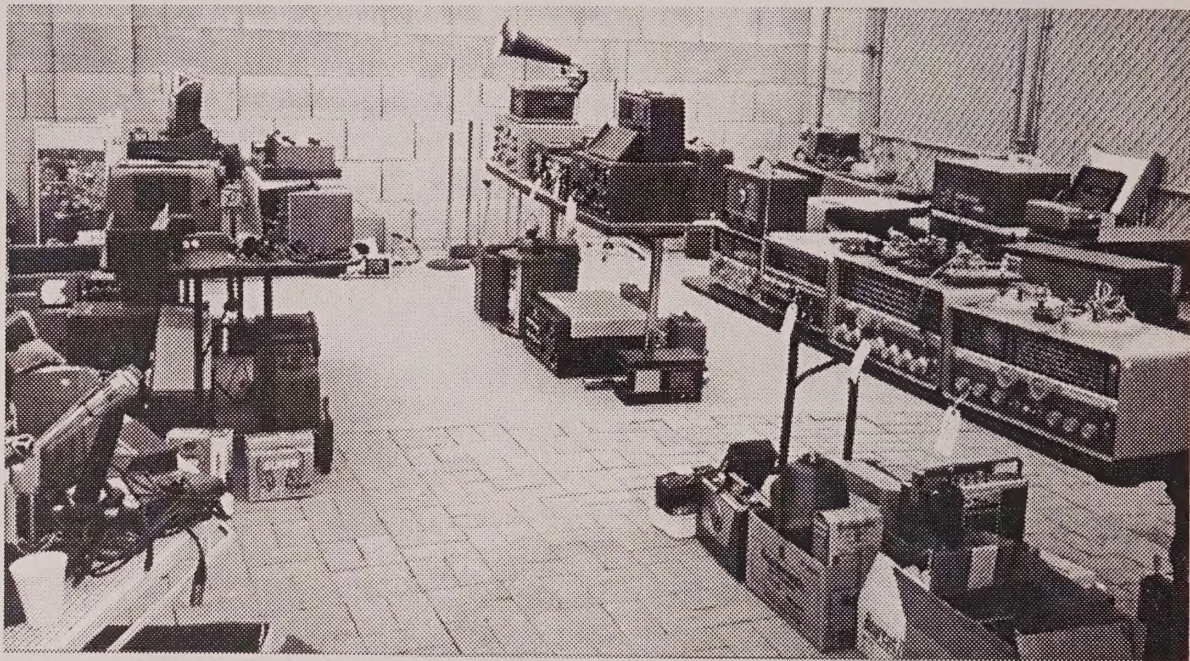
Larry Jeseritz, 1033 W Isleta, Mesa, AZ 85210, (480)839-0113,
oldjez@msn.com

Albert C Jones, P O Box 97, Crescent City, CA 95531, (707)464-6470

William C Kafka W2YAV, 368 Tamarack Ln, Prescott, AZ 86301-1251,
(520)778-2983

John Kaib, 26409 S. Sedona Dr, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248, (480)966-9238,

G~K



Some of the items for sale at the Ed Eddy estate sale in February.

There were 20 Zenith Trans-Oceanics for sale by "silent auction" but except for a couple of exceptions, many did not receive bids and didn't sell.

it has to be assumed that this won't always be the case.

Dan Nelson then gave us a crash course in the TV-7 type tube tester. Dan repairs and calibrates these popular testers and he was entertaining and generous with his comments on what goes wrong with them (not much!) , how to identify, repair and

find them. Dan is a natural teacher and we were all amazed to find out so much about this useful shop item.

George A. Fathauer told us about his book, *Radio Tubes and Boxes of the 1920's*, which had recently been released. And we had a show-and-tell of other member's antique testers.

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K~M



Steve Smith and Rosemary Eddy doing some last minute pricing. The 40 or so microphones on sale did surprisingly well.

January 2000 Radio Roundup “Bakelite”

For a complete report, see the color pages beginning on page 23.

February 2000 Tucson Swap Meet

Dave's Antiques in Tucson was the site of our Spring Swap Meet, on February 5, 2000. Once again the size and merchandise quality of the

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More scenes from the Eddy estate sale. The sale and silent auction grossed \$4200.

gathering had improved from the year before. This meet is smaller than our Fall meet but it is a good chance to meet the Tucson collectors and browse the large selection of radios available at Dave's.

You shouldn't miss this growing yearly event.

February 2000 Ed Eddy Estate Sale

On February 12, the club sponsored a sale of the late Ed Eddy's collection. Ed's wife asked that the club help her dispose of a large amount of Ed's collection of Zentih Trans-Oceanics, and many, many other items. We

continued on page 28

SIXTH ANNUAL RADIO ROUNDUP

BAKELITE



New member Jeff Thomas was the big winner. His meticulously restored A-K breadboard took both Best of Show and Best Restoration honors.

Jeff has a unique way of restoring Bakelite parts, utilizing automatic transmission fluid!

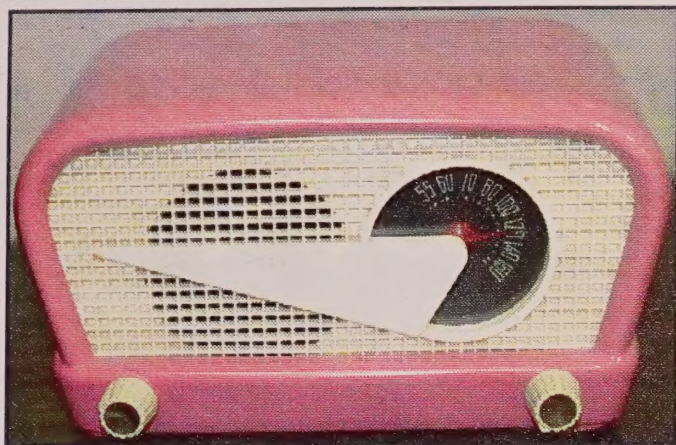


The Radio Roundup was held this year on January 8, in Tempe at the Pyle Center. Although the theme was a large one, attendance at the meeting was down considerably from that of previous years. Maybe it was too close to the holidays, but nevertheless we had exam-

ples of some of the more noteworthy Bakelite radios made.

We did learn some new things about Bakelite, its composition, manufacturing process and history, as well as many tips on repairing and restoring it.

BAKELITE



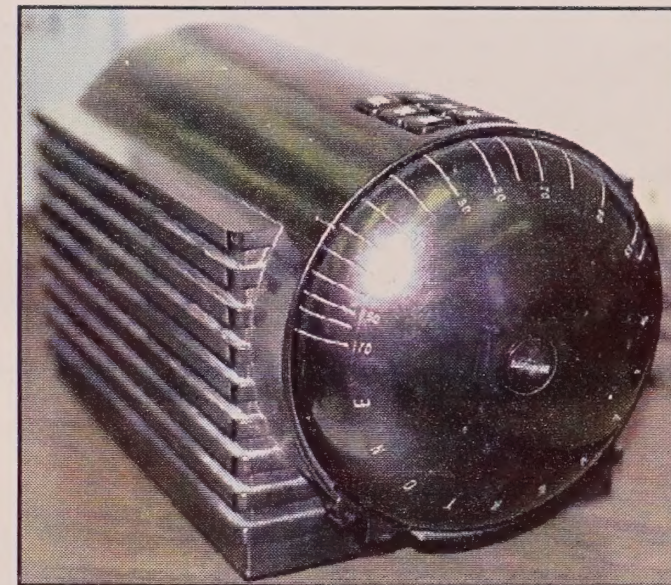
Another radio brought back from oblivion by Ken Krol.



This white Zenith is an example of the many Bakelite radios that were available in "natural brown" and "bone white".



Steve Smith's red bakelite Sentinel proves they could make it in something other than dark brown.



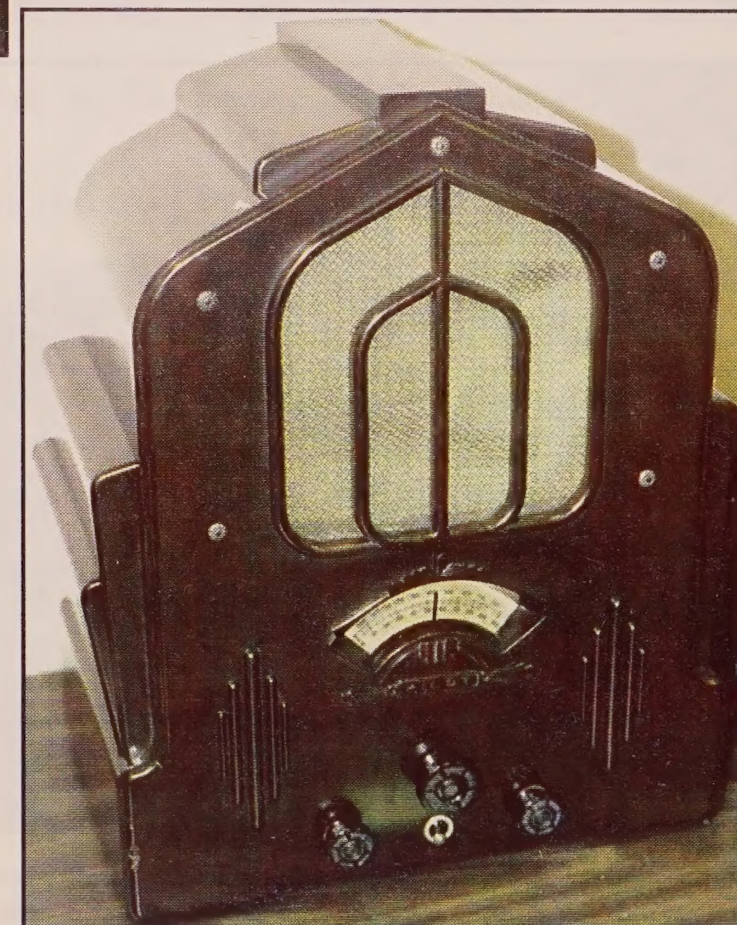
Larry Kenan's Silvertone, above, won Most Unusual Radio for obvious reasons.

Bill Lettow's collection of 1951 Crosley 11-10x radios, left, won for Best Story. Bill took 25 years of collecting to put together this set of radios.

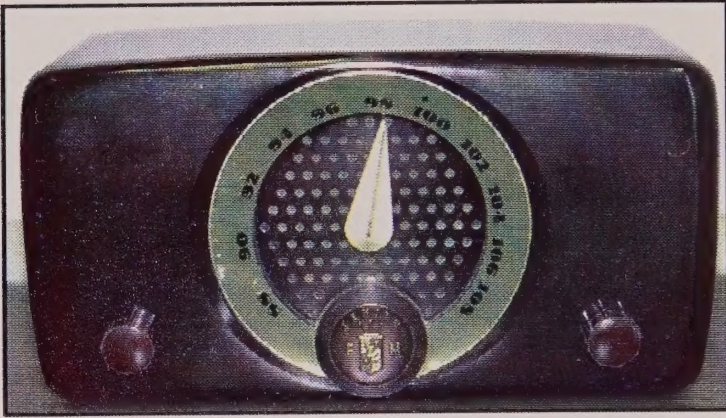


Martin Bergan's Pilot radio, right, won the award for Largest Bakelite Molding. As big as a large wooden cathedral, it is made from a single piece of Bakelite.

Another big radio was Martin's round Ekco, left, made in England by the company that "broke the mold" by creating exciting new radio shapes in Bakelite.



ARIZONA ANTIQUE



An unusual FM-only Zenith using "The Armstrong System" of FM reception was displayed by Bill Lettow.

Below, a few of the many Bakelite sets produced by Philco. Chassis were often shared with wood cabinet models (Dave Lambert collection.)



This wonderful Bakelite turntable won Best Non-Radio item for Carl Roberts. Carl brought many other interesting old and new Bakelite items.

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Steve Strapach's Stromberg-Carlson in a sewing table type cabinet was on show at the April meeting.

had the sale, it was well attended and brought in \$4200 for Ed's wife Rosemary. Within a few more days, she sold almost everything else to members who couldn't attend the sale.

Club members who helped out on the sale were Bill Lettow, David Cain, Dave Lambert, Mark Toppo, Larry Jeseritz, Steve Smith, Gerry Higgins and Ed Vendeville. The club received a percentage of the sale.

March 2000

Display at Scottsdale Hamfest

This year at the Hamfest held at Scottsdale Community College in March, we rented a tent, set up

a display of radios from member's collections and operated a field radio station. With his permission we used the callsign of Lew McCoy.

As usual the booth attracted a lot of interest from the throngs at the meet, and maybe some younger persons learned that there were radios that actually had some design and style to them. They learned that radios were once proudly displayed in living rooms.

In terms of club participation, the event was a disappointment. The few members who were there put in long hours manning the booth and answering questions. There was a lot of work to do setting up tent, display,

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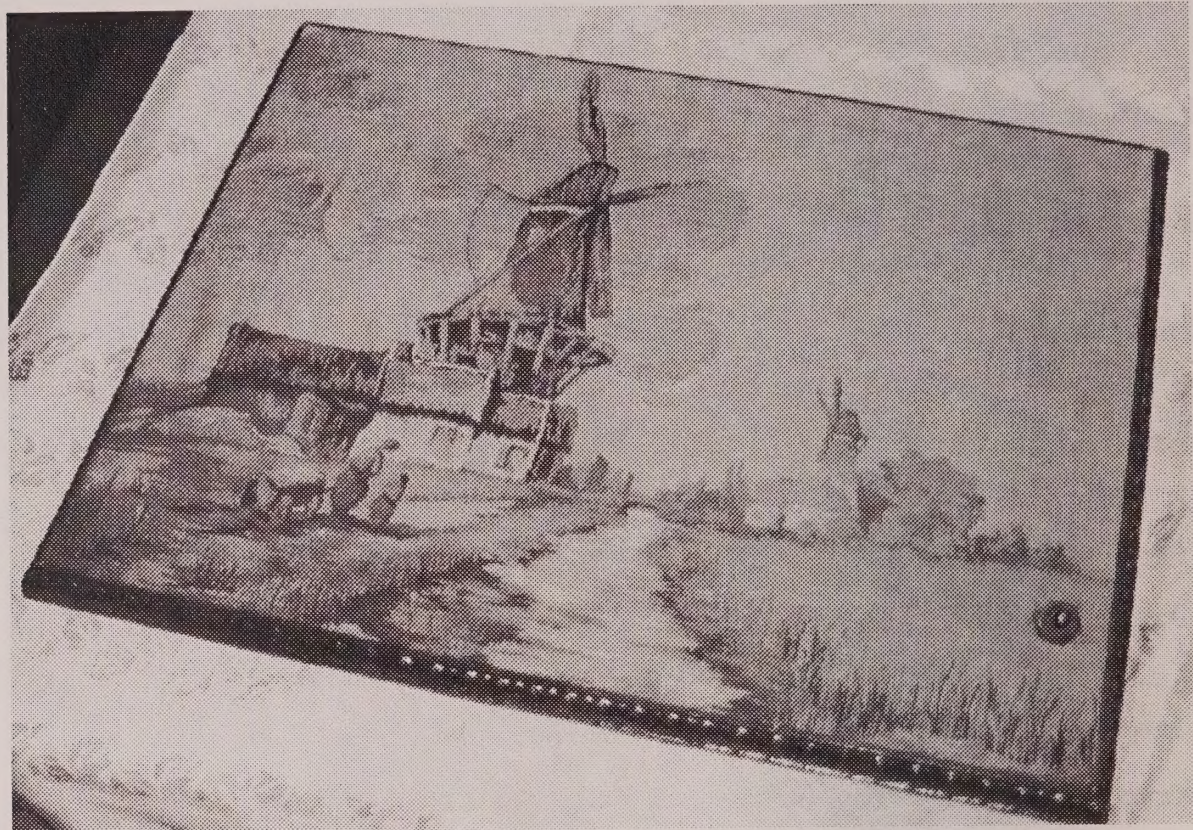
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S~V



No it's not your grandmother's cross-stitch, it's a flat "electrostatic" speaker, owned by Mark Toppo. At the right is Bob Bakinowski's extremely rare Sony CRF-330K, below that is Dick Stout's English/Russian tank radio.

antenna and radio station. A number of members passing by expressed disappointment at the club's failure to have a Spring swap meet in the Phoenix area.

Performing above and beyond the call of duty: Dave Lambert, Cal Lidback, Dennis Craft, Con Morton, and especially Jan Van Niekerk at the key - all day.

April 2000

Annual Business Meeting and Major Show-and-Tell

The club did much better at the April meeting. We held our business and elections meeting a month earlier than usual, as a result we had the largest attendance ever for an election meeting.

If the Board learned one thing this year, it was that having food

at at meeting almost guaranteed a good turnout. One wonders if club members aren't being fed at home. The four events this year that had food, the October Potluck, the November Swap Meet, the Eddy Sale and the April meeting were all exceptionally well attended and jovial meetings, where no one went hungry.

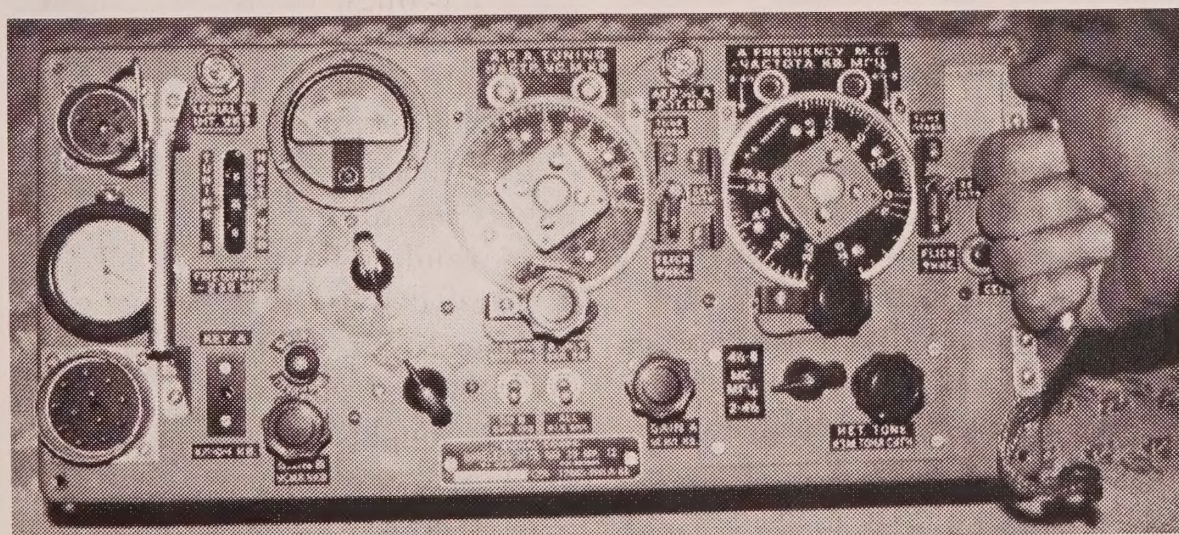
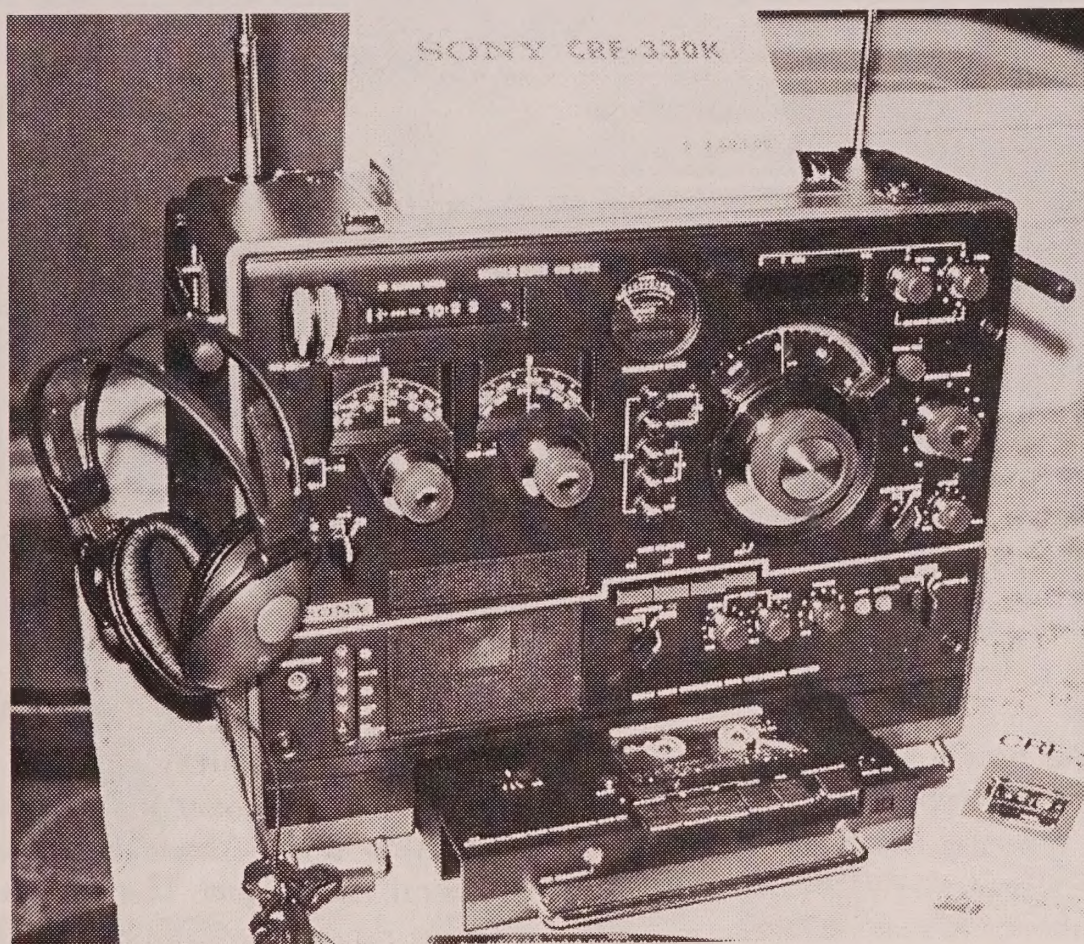
The election results were reported in our Spring issue.

With the simple request to "share something from your collection" we got a wonderful variety of show and tell items: from Rick Mountjoy's Roi-Tan/Sophie Tucker Radio Show toy car, to a English/Russian Tank Radio brought by Dick Stout. Bob Bakinowski revealed his massive Sony CRF-330K for the first time in public

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Rare Esby catalin from the collection of Martin Bergan. One of only two known to exist.

and we saw Martin Bergan's catalin Esby radio - one of two known to exist.

And now a word about our host - Dave Lambert. Besides hosting this meeting, with the help of his wife Carol, Dave wrapped up his Presidency of two years. During that time he has been extremely generous to the club, never failing to help with events, make the necessary phone calls, send out meeting flyers, buy refreshments, lift, carry, make change, keep records, bring radios for display, host meetings, turn hot dogs, the list could go on and on. This from a quiet man who also has many other responsibilities at work and with his family. The club has been very fortunate to have Dave at the helm for the past two years.

May 2000 Automatic Radio with George A. Fathauer

In May we held our last meeting of the year at the Ahwatukee home of George A. Fathauer. The program was on Automatic Radio. Without the threat of elections, which were held this year in April, turnout was good for a May meeting.

George presented a history of the company and then showed his collection of Tob Thumb radios (made by Automatic). Martin Bergan brought his Tom Thumb catalins, and some other members brought their Automatic radios as well.

...And now, we start a new year this October. 🕒

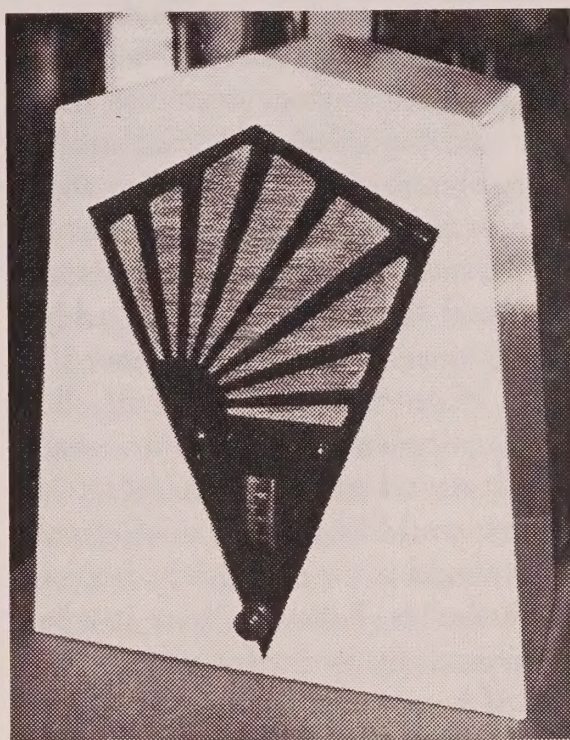
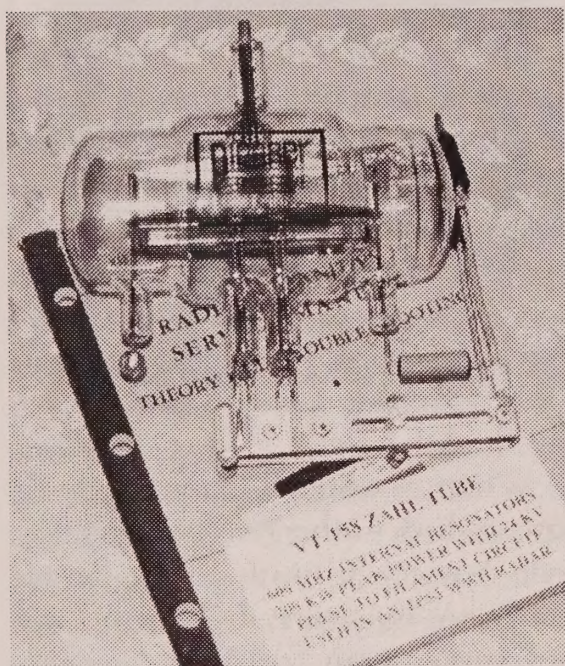
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More items at the April Show and Tell: Radar tube brought by George H. Fathauer, Roi-Tan promotional toy car brought by Rick Mountjoy, Keller-Fuller in metal cabinet owned and restored by Ken Krol.

W~Z

NARD'S RADIONICS

continued from page 9

Popular Mechanics, Popular Electronics, or Popular Science. Actually I don't remember where that word came from.

So, I sold those radios to farmers for their barns. I accepted trade-ins of AC radios, but also wound up with some 32-volt DC windcharger radios. As can be imagined, their value plummeted immediately upon 110-volt hook-up. I sometimes think of all those radios, many of them new and beautiful, that got dumped probably after years of sitting on some shelf in some shed while their owners waited futilely and hopelessly for some practical use for them. Nowadays, a collector could be interested in them, demonstrating them with shop power supplies, but then I was not a collector and tended to be practical. If you couldn't plug it in the wall, who would want it and why keep it? Nevertheless, I used to hate it when a particularly beautiful model with lots of bands and lights came to my attention and it was of no practical use to its owner or me.

That business jump start created by my uncle's radios led to my buying future radio stock from people who were willing to sell their used radios. One enjoyable source of stock was the occasions when I would be offered two radios, non-working, with the condition that if I fixed and returned one, I could keep the other. That was particularly delightful on those occasions when both were repairable by me, and I could choose which one



Atwater-Kent Model 60

I wanted to keep.

When my South Dakota grandparents died, I inherited their highboy style Atwater-Kent, at a time before my business years. It became my bedroom radio for 5 or 6 years, although table models came and went through that room also over the years. Shortly thereafter at an estate sale in town, I bid on another highboy, possibly also an Atwater-Kent. I got it for \$5. That kind of amazed me: that I could actually buy and own an adult piece of furniture, especially one that could provide so many hours of enjoyment. I don't remember what happened to the second old console, but I presume that I sold it relatively soon, as I don't recall having two around at the same time for any length of time. It is now coming back

to me that it was in my garage for awhile, the garage being my summer version of the basement workshop. But I still remember the warm big sounds of those big wooden consoles with their 12 or 14 inch speakers. Mellow booming describes the sound to me; no one wonder the idea of putting radios in barns came to mind. A big console with a big speaker was perfect for a big, busy, noisy barn.

Let me digress here and insert what I believe I know about some of the radios that I was involved with for a period of time as differentiated from the several dozen that merely passed through my hands. Back then, no one I knew cared about older versus new radios. I didn't either. There was no antique or classic radio interest as far as I know. People cared for performance, price, sound quality, and looks; age was not very important, as even the very oldest radios were relatively new and not yet very rare. So I do not know the model numbers of the radios from my youth; I remember other details about them, so I am going to estimate what the model numbers were here by data I have obtained from publications. Tube numbers I knew and cared about; model numbers were not important to someone who wasn't using schematics.

The first radio I was cognizant of was the late 30s model (I won't guess at a model number) Zenith console in our living room. It was multi-band, had pushbuttons, and a black rectangular dial. It had good performance and tone. When I was younger, I was not allowed to select

my own listening times and programs, and about the time I was old enough, I started getting my own sets in various other rooms and didn't hang around our living room much. So although I remember enjoying listening to that Zenith with other family members at a young age, I never actually personally operated it to any degree.

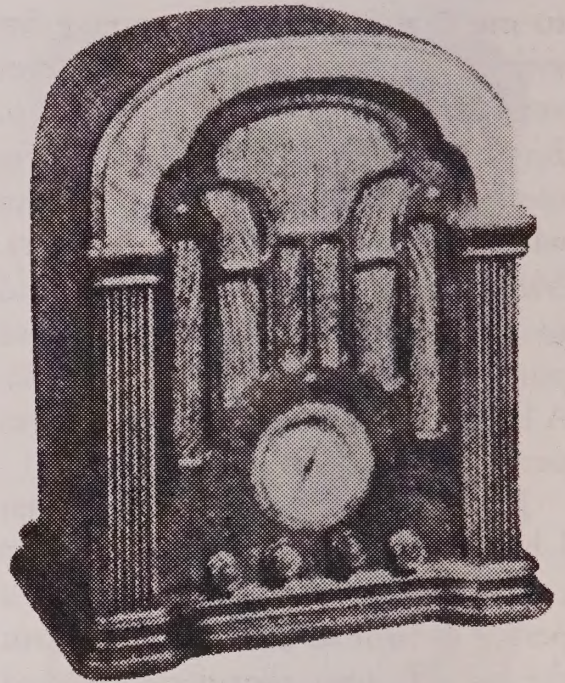
The Atwater-Kent I had from my grandparents was probably a 60, made in 1929. The cathedral Dad had in his store was a Philco 51; a good radio but relegated to the nearest station, KORN, Mitchell, SD, 1490 on the dial. Our fluorescent lights and refrigerator and freezer motors wiped out other signals. But KORN had a good daytime signal from 40 miles away, and had the right mix of local programming, music, after school serials, and baseball games, so I didn't mind the situation. On a slow day though, I kind of wished for a set that I could tune around some and listen to Sioux Falls, Sioux City, Omaha, and other exotic metropolises.

When I was about 15, someone cleaning out their basement, attic, or garage offered me a RCA Radiola 60. Naturally, I took it. That was the oldest looking radio I ever had. It had a flip open top, and a long row of tubes. The speaker was separate, a round metal one. That became my basement shop radio for my last two years of high school, and although I took it for granted, it was a wonderful set. It had a great tone, looked good, and was real nice for flipping open and seeing all the glowing tubes

at work. That began a long time practice of mine of taking chassis out of cabinets and seeing the works and the glow when I had a radio on. I had radios operating out of their cases for months. Naturally, the advent of transistors took the fun out of that habit.

When I was about 11, I became the owner of an Atwater-Kent 206, produced in 1934. Many a night, I listened to Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Mexican stations with it and my head under the blankets to escape detection. I would wake up sometime after midnight, bring the radio into bed, listen for an hour or two until I fell asleep, and wake-up again around 5 or 6, at which point it was acceptable to get up and start listening openly again. The 206 was quite heavy and one day I was charged with forbidden listening as the imprint of the base on the flannel sheet showed up during the following day when Mother changed the bedding. It also got hot under the blankets with all those tubes, but I thought that was a small price to pay for listening to the magic.

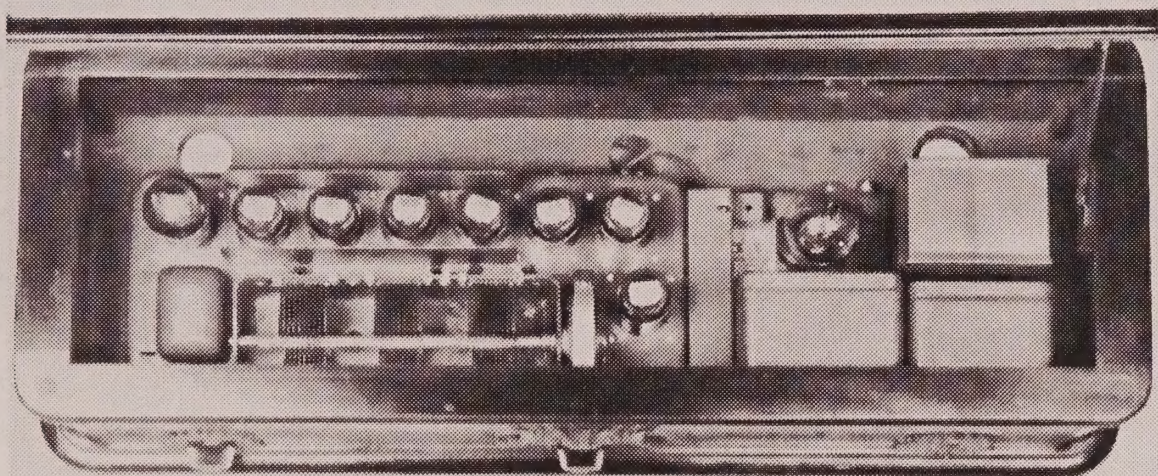
My business included town customers as well as rural ones. As the population of Corsica, SD was 450, my burden of entrepreneurship allowed me time for high school, working in my Dad's general store before school, during lunch hour, after school, and from 8 am to midnight every Saturday. We were closed Sunday. I have no complaints about that fairly heavy store schedule, as I thoroughly enjoyed being treated as an adult member of the community.



Atwater-Kent Model 206

I still remember many customers, what kind of car I put their groceries in, what brands they were partial to (Wheaties versus Pep; Post Toasties versus Kellogg's Corn Flakes; Folgers versus Butternut coffee; Luckies versus Camels) who they were related to, and some of their shopping idiosyncrasies. I periodically return to that area, and enjoy visiting with some of the former customers, and they certainly seem to enjoy reminiscing with me.

Our store closed in 1956 as Dad had decided that he was tired of the long hours, and intended to get out of the store as soon as his youngest child graduated from high school. He felt that working there kept his high school kids out of trouble (who had time for mischief? actually I found a little time for that occasionally) and stated that as the sole reason for not selling it. I heard him say that occasionally, but it didn't register until he sold it the month after I



A row of glowing tubes in this inside view of a Radiola 60

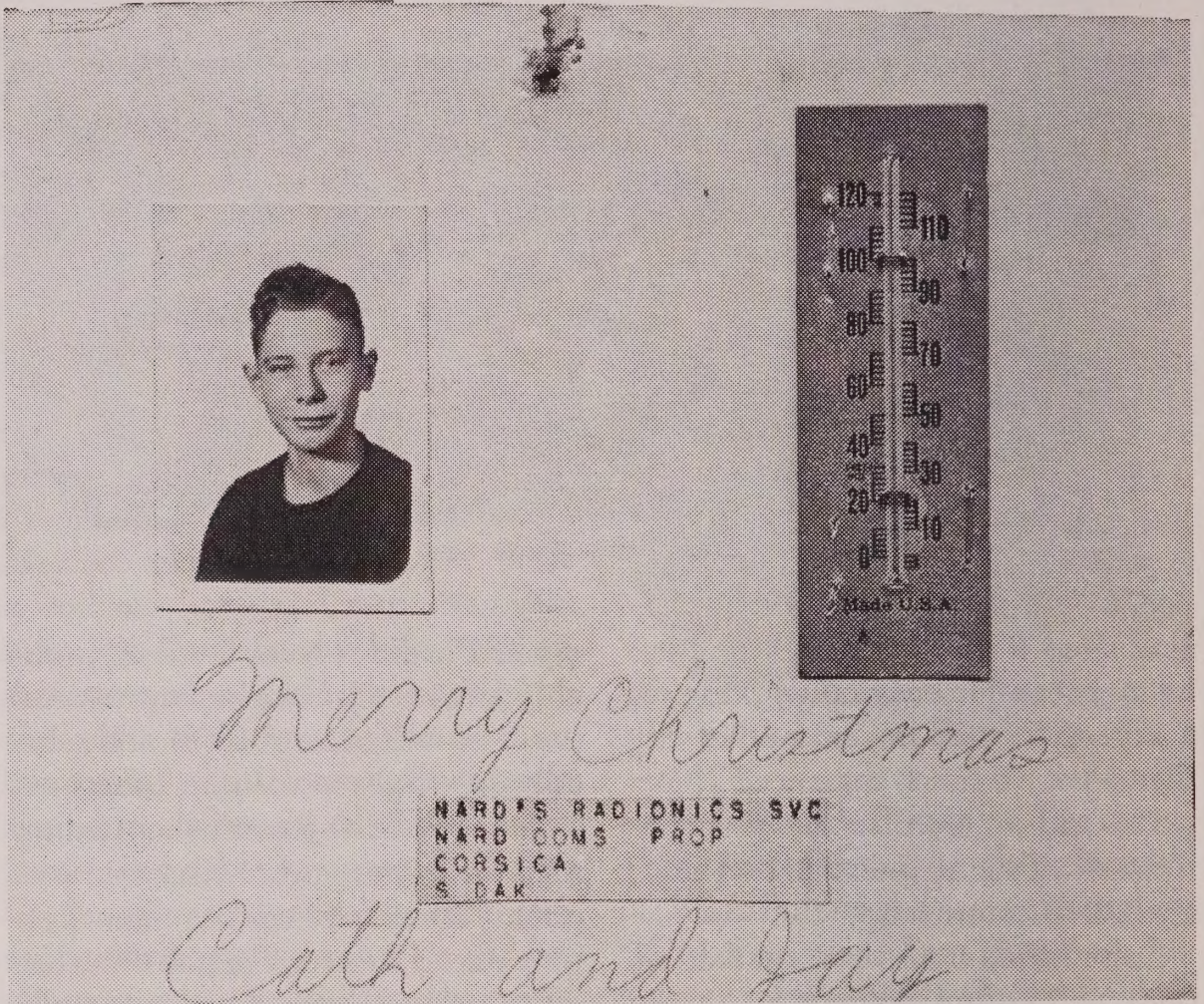
graduated from high school. I guess he meant it. He enjoyed working for a supermarket chain in another city thereafter; 40 hours instead of 70 per week, and no sleepless nights about the state of the business made his life a whole lot more enjoyable.

I also found time for a little fishing, pheasant hunting, rabbit hunting (the local creamery, a business dedicated to buying milk, eggs, and chickens paid 5 cents for cottontails and 25 cents for jackrabbits, which they in turn sold to a mink farm near the next town) trying to keep a car running, and church activities. But 3 or 4 nights a week found me in the radio shop, messing with electronic gear unless I had a guest in which case we played carom (up to 36 games one night; the winner needing a two game advantage; the final being 19 games to 17. I remember the score, but not who won, which may be evidence that I lost).

My repair business was aided by going to the local radio storeowner, and using his tester for the tubes from the non-working radios I needed to

repair. He didn't seem to mind, probably because I bought any needed tubes from him, and I was undoubtedly his highest-volume tube customer. He didn't pay much attention to my business otherwise, and was not my elmer (electronics mentor). As time passed, I needed to buy tubes less often, as sets I parted out eventually yielded a large supply of used tubes and knobs and other items.

Eventually, I read ads for electronics catalogs in *Popular Science*, *Popular Mechanics*, *Science and Mechanics*, and *Mechanix Illustrated* magazines. I ordered catalogs from Allied, Newark Electronics, Lafayette, and Burstein-Applebee, plus a couple other companies, names forgotten. I studied them thoroughly and dreamed of all the stuff I didn't have and in fact wouldn't know what to do with even if I did have it. Some of the things I remember ordering include a long-playing record of zither and cimbalom music for my mother's birthday as she enjoyed unique items. I ordered a contact microphone and amplifier that attached to a guitar sounding



Christmas greetings from Nard's Radionics

board to upgrade a local guitarist as acoustic guitar players were beginning to want to emulate steel and electric guitar players. At least once I ordered whatever I could afford whether I needed it or not. I ordered some items I needed, and had 4 cents left, so I ordered a 4 cent reducer for downsizing a dial light socket to work with smaller base bulbs. I can't imagine doing that now, but I did and my order probably totaling \$10 worth of items included the socket reducer I never used. I am unaware of anyone ever using such an ingenious item, but I had 4 cents left over and knew of no more worthy cause of non-designated funds than electronic

gear of any kind. If 24 cents had been available instead, I would have looked for, found, and ordered something more expensive in order to use it up (or maybe I would have ordered 6 unnecessary socket reducers).

Although I got out of the radio repair business upon graduating from high school in 1956, Allied and Burstein catalogs, addressed to Nard's Radionics Service followed me to college in Grand Rapids, Michigan and after college and after Army service in Germany, they followed me to Indiana. As recently as 1966, I bought an electric alarm clock for about 3 bucks from Burstein when I was living in Indianapolis. I used that

clock every workday until 1994, and it still works, although it is now parked on a closet shelf. It followed me and my jobs and family to Anchorage, Detroit, and Los Angeles. But my perusal of the catalogs and my usage of them dropped dramatically (one clock in 10 years) and naturally they stopped coming. I have no idea when the last ones came. Are Burstein and Allied still in business? My catalogs of choice nowadays include Antique Electronic Supply (the Arizona tie-in for this article), Grove in North Carolina, and Universal in Ohio.

My general pricing policy was very simple as I was kind of rule driven in all my habits. I charged \$1 plus parts for any repairs. Some repairs were simple and quick, loose wires or variable condenser adjusting for example. Some I spent hours on, looking for faulty connections or other problems not readily identifiable. Either way, I charged \$1. Some I worked on for hours or for several evenings, but could not fix due to my lack of training or test equipment. Those I returned at no charge. If the repair required one of my used tubes, I charged \$1 for the tube, regardless of style, rarity, or new price. If I had to buy a new tube, I resold it for 10% over my purchase price; I don't think I charged any labor for tube replacement, only jobs.

The selling price for my radios was \$5, unless the pricing formula mentioned above for the needed tubes needed to bring the radio to working order called for more. The radios were all used; and except for needed tubes had cost me little or nothing.

There was a large family of adventuresome entrepreneurs in my town. They were involved with almost any activity, except the normal farming and small business operations of the area. This family moved buildings, including grain elevators and churches, created roads with bulldozers, moved entire towns out of the way of the lakes created when the big Missouri River dams were built, harvested wheat from Kansas to Manitoba, flew airplanes, and in short, did all kinds of interesting things, compared to my family. The grandfather of the family gave me the Radiola 60. He had at least 9 children, and many grandchildren who were of my generation. One of his sons, Doc, became a Kaiser-Fraser dealer. This dealer had many acquaintances and relatives.

When I was growing up, there was no age limit for vehicle driving. Ten-year-olds drove tractors, and 12 year olds drove cars with sibling passengers to school. These young driving ages were not the norm, as there were plenty of older siblings usually who insisted on driving, but younger drivers did exist. I was 16, when a law requiring drivers to be at least 15 was passed, so to this point in my life, I have never been too young to legally drive.

At any rate, Doc, who had living parents, 8 siblings, and many driving nephews, nieces, sons and a daughter sold a lot of Kaisers and Frasers to relatives, employees of relatives, and friends. I often think that the number of Kaisers and Frasers per capita in Douglas County, SD had to be the

highest in the United States. Doc hired me during my high school years to install radios in his new cars. He paid \$5 per installation, which was great fun and money for me. The first one took about 4 hours, as the car had not been engineered for easy radio installation. As I was 6 feet tall, I had to fold my legs over the back of the front seat, and lie upside down with my head under the dash for much of the four hours. The heating air duct had to be removed through a series of awkward maneuvers, and replaced through a series of maneuvers that were even more awkward. But I was proud and enthusiastic about this adult type business transaction and enjoyed the successful results. Eventually, I got the job down to a little less than 2 hours. Dad paid me \$10 weekly for 30 hours during the school year and for 65 hours weekly May to September. I was not in the least dissatisfied with the pay, as I knew others who worked as hard or harder than I on the family farm or at the family business for no more. The depression taught my parents how to enjoy life without much cash, and they successfully passed their attitudes along to me. Plus, I got free room and board, and had the right to earn more on my time. But the joy of earning for doing work valuable to someone outside the family, and having a legitimate reason to stay out till 11 p.m., and getting \$5 per night for difficult, but fun, work was immense.

Although I did not spend much of my adult life thinking of that small portion of my youth spent installing

Kaiser and Fraser radios, it was a real treat in 1996, 41 years after the installations, to visit a museum started by Doc's brother. The museum consists of several sheds, a quonset hut, and open spaces, containing many old, classic, antique cars, trucks, steam engines, tractors, and farm machinery. In the quonset hut, some Kaisers and Frasers were parked; some in fine condition. And although I had not signed my work and therefore could not prove who installed the radios, the odds are excellent that I have done one or more of them.

After seeing those cars, I went to visit Doc, then, in 1996, confined to his house by illness. I had talked to him only once before since 1956. This time I asked him why he hired me to install the radios. I assumed that the \$5 I charged was less than the factory charge. He corrected me, saying that he would have ordered them factory installed, but that factory-installed radios were unavailable to him. I still don't know why that was; it may have been that their supplier was backlogged. Maybe he ordered radios that were not specified for the vehicles; that might explain some of the installation difficulty.

Most embarrassing moment in my radio repair career: leaning my hot soldering iron on the side of the plastic case of the clock whose line cord I was replacing. Nice looking clock until then. When hung, the damage wasn't too noticeable. I confessed, apologized, and you guessed it, charged him \$1 for the work. I didn't charge for used line cords, as you can imagine I had

a huge number of them by then. The customer was good-natured fortunately, and later had me work on his living room console radio. In fact, he was a competitor of Dad, in that he operated one of the other grocery stores in town. When I graduated from high school, he bought Dad's store, and I worked for him that summer, until I left the state for college.

Most surprising moment in my radio repair career: getting knocked to the floor due to touching a hot part of a chassis, and finding out that sometimes more than 110 volts lurked among those parts, especially noticeable when standing on a damp basement floor.

Most satisfying moments: every time plugging in a newly received used radio, or a radio that I had been attempting to repair, and hearing a good sound. And every time that a radio with a sick signal could be greatly improved by merely properly reattaching the antenna leads, adding an antenna, or adjusting the variable.

Saddest moment; I hadn't paid much attention to shortwave because no one I knew was informative about it and medium wave dx was satisfying enough to me early in my radio years. But when I was about 11, the AK 206, which had several short-wave bands and therefore a fascinating dial, quit working. So I took all the tubes down to the local radio shop, with the idea of finding the inoperative one, replacing it, and then begin seeking short wave stations in earnest. I will blame junior high lack of coordina-

tion for the sad fact that I dropped the little metal bucket that I carried all the tubes in on the concrete sidewalk in front of the radio shop as I was trying to open the door. Three tubes broke, worth about \$12. Since that was about an annual income for me then, and since I had a console AK to listen to, I didn't even check the remaining tubes, and never attempted to repair that set. By the time I had \$12 several years later, I had plenty of working radios. But I still remember the sadness of that day, and many times then and even now I wonder what shortwave listening opportunities I missed.

I never possessed a good shortwave set while I lived in South Dakota, and never ran into anyone who was conversant with short wave listening from that state. I do remember older AM sets that showed POLICE on the upper dial, from about 1600 to 1800 KC, but I never heard any signals there. South Dakota was, and is, a low crime - low population state, and I always presumed then that 1600 to 1800 would be busy and fascinating in places like Chicago.

Most enchanting discovery: from a toy microphone someone gave me, I discovered that tube radios had an amplifier tube and that wires connected to two prongs on that tube would enable a microphone to be heard through the set. After I had absorbed that fact, and worn out my microphone enjoyment, one night I idly wondered if a phonograph cartridge connected to those prongs would allow a phonograph to be heard. In hindsight, I should have

figured that out immediately. But I didn't figure that out for a long time. How exciting that was, finding out that my theory worked in practice. I didn't make a public spectacle of myself, but I certainly felt like an electronics genius for a while. Finding something out alone and by logic, even if many people knew it all along, is a very pleasurable experience, and I suppose approaches the emotions inventors have.

My shop thereafter generally had a turntable connected to the Radiola on which I played some of my miniscule record collection. But records never replaced radio for me, in large part because I never knew what would be heard on the radio next and someone like me kept listening in the hope that the next sounds would be interesting. Records were fine and sounded better more consistently than a lot of radio signals, but lacked the element of surprise I craved. I am somewhat more cynical about what I will hear on radio now or at least have lowered expectations.

A final note on my basement radio shop. I remember early 1950s Monday night radio programming more than any part of the week. In the summer, I spent no time in my shop except for actual repair jobs only, as warm nights and fishing and other such activities pulled me outdoors. But in the winter, I would spend entire evenings in the shop, whether or not I had actual repair jobs. Due to church youth groups, working on Saturday nights, and basketball nights most other nights, I must have spent more Monday nights at home

than any other nights. And on those nights, I remember the glow of the Radiola with the open lid listening to a silly quiz program with the name Lemac in the title. Camel sponsored the show. Lemac is Camel spelled backward, and the game involved the term "I'd walk a mile for a Camel." I believe that the Sauter Finnegan Orchestra played on that program, and was the most enjoyable part of it. His music was second only to that of Spike Jones for me, in those years.

I also remember *Lux Radio Theatre* on those Monday nights. My town had no movie theatre, and it was not until at least two years after high school that I found out about Broadway, or even then knew that any live theatre existed someplace beside in high school class plays. *Lux Radio Theatre* was interesting listening for me though. It consisted of current movies and plays, re-scripted for a 60-minute radio presentation and using the actual stars of the current productions. Obviously, I paid no attention to the source of the radio programs, and just enjoyed the programs themselves, drama or comedy, as a Monday night thing to do. (My lack of knowledge about the entertainment industry outside of radio is pretty unbelievable now; I enjoyed many popular songs of the late 40s and early 50s and those great artists like Vic Damone, Perry Como, the Andrews Sisters, and Kay Starr. But I had no idea that songs like "Three Coins in the Fountain" and "Que Sera Sera" and many others had come from movies; I assumed that they were written solely for record

companies).

Also for a time, Arthur Godfrey had a Monday night radio program, *Arthur Godfrey and Friends*. Godfrey was at the peak of his career in the early 50s. He was live on CBS Radio for one and one half-hours each morning, 5 days a week. Starting in the 1950s, 30 minutes of that was also simulcast on television. His morning show, opening with "Beautiful Dreamer", began in 1945 and ran until 1972, a whole lot of 90 minute slots. And he had a Monday night program very similar to his daily morning program. And he had a Thursday night program, *Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts*. The primetime programs were either 30 or 60 minutes each, and one or both may have been televised.

Today, 90 minute daily network programs are not unique; Rush Limbaugh, Dr. Laura, Howard Stern, Don Imus and others lasting up to 4 hours come to mind. But when Godfrey began his daily network show in the 40s, it was at a time when the typical daytime program was a fifteen-minute soap opera. And he was relatively entertaining. I didn't listen much to his daily show because of school and work, but I remember it as non-political, without interviewees, with some monologue, chatter with his regulars, and a lot of live music. He talked up his Virginia horse farm, his trips to Miami Beach (where the major thoroughfare is named after him), his Hawaii trips (at a time when few Americans got there), and his private plane flying experiences. Tony Marvin announced his program,

and it had its own orchestra, led by Archie Bleyer. His vocalists included a Hawaiian, whose name I will attempt to spell as Halle Loki, and Julius LaRosa, whom he fired while on the air in a famous incident. Godfrey played a ukulele, and sold many copies of the politically incorrect record, "She's Too Fat For Me."

Why did I like listening to him? Well, in that era somewhat freer of celebritydom than ours, he got a lot of press. It was kind of the thing to do, be aware of what he was up to, like Rush, Leno, or Letterman now. And his program was friendly, comfortable, humorous, and mildly unpredictable. It never touched on any political or social issues, or was even vaguely critical of any national or local figures. But I particularly liked him for his irreverent treatment of his sponsors. Due to his huge audience, he had a long waiting list of would-be sponsors, in addition to the ones he already had. His sponsors were a soap, probably Rinso, Chesterfields, and Lipton. After doing wonders for Lipton's tea sales, he started on their then newly introduced product line of dried soups. Until dry soups, store bought soups generally were Campbell's and Heinz nationally. (Campbell's won that contest years ago, when Heinz dropped their line of same size cans with similar red and white labels. Sorry, the grocery boy in me still shows sometimes).

With few exceptions, commercials were serious and performers treated sponsors with a lot of respect. Radio generally was dignified, except for

comedy programs. But Godfrey was able, with his list of waiting sponsors, to appear to mock his sponsors, although in actuality I expect his comments helped move the product. For years I have been telling the story of the time I heard him praise the excellence of Lipton's vegetable soup in this fashion: "Six different vegetables. Yup, 5 rutabagas and a pea." To a high schooler, this was hilarious stuff.

And being a natural born dial twister, I also listened to the exotic (to me) Mexican stations, XERF, with a Del Rio, TX mailing address, and XELO, with Clint, TX mailing address. Ironically, in those days I listened to Mexican stations broadcast in English; now we hear a lot of US stations broadcasting in Spanish.

I did a couple of other electronic tasks during high school. Four local churches alternated producing a devotional program aired over KORN, Mitchell, SD each Sunday. Every fourth week, I announced the production for our church, and closed the tape with: "This has been the Bread of Life Hour, your announcer is Nard Ooms." And every Sunday morning, I selected a record to be played and amplified over speakers from our church steeple into the surrounding neighborhood for the 30 minutes preceding the worship service. For this I was rewarded by the celebrity created by a line in our weekly church bulletin: "Tower Music Technician--Nard Ooms." In those days and at that time such an activity was considered fine or at least okay, and not noise pollution. No neighbors

complained, although most of them were on the way to church by then anyway. Not many Sunday morning sleep-ins then in that town.

Well, to wrap it up, I graduated from high school in May, 1956; Dad sold the store in June, 1956; I worked for the new owner, who gradually closed our store and melded the business and customers into his store down the street; and in September, I walked away from my business (actually took the train), left for college in Grand Rapids, MI where I proceeded to do very little in the line of radio repairing, as transistors replaced tubes and I had not kept up with the technology. Also, I was totally busy struggling with college, the Army, girls, and cheap cars instead of radio. But I continued to be interested in listening to radio and had another little involvement, which I may write about someday.

My folks moved from my childhood home in October that year, one month after I left home. They auctioned off some stuff, moved a little, and hauled the rest to the landfill, known then as the dump. So the dump got most of my left over stock, and by then I was so totally immersed in a whole different way of life that I didn't give a bit of thought to the interesting stuff being thrown out. But this year, while writing this, I am wondering: what ever happened to that Radiola? 📻

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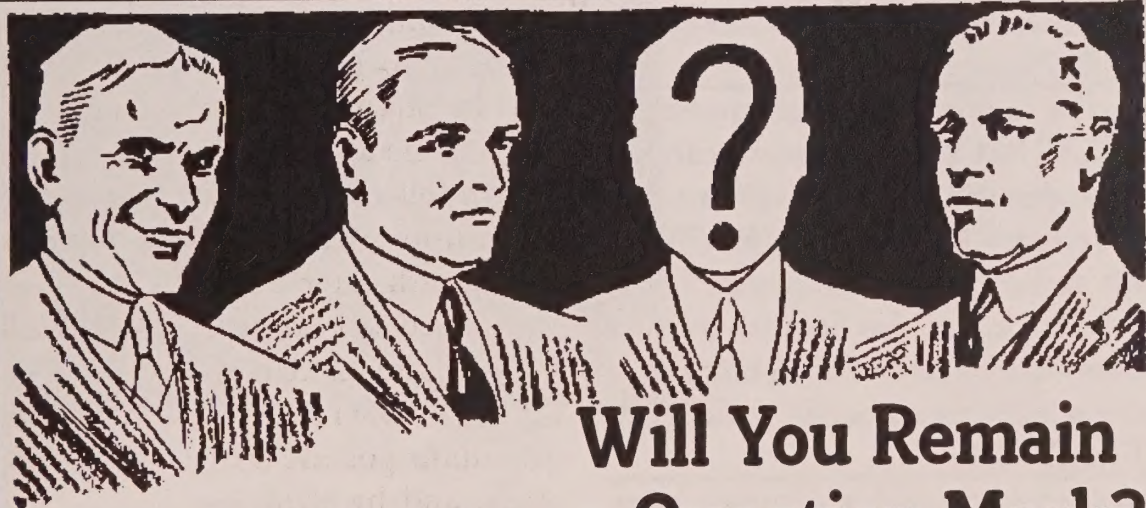
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and radio in good original condition. **DAVID FRANKLIN**, (602)955-8097, leave message if no answer.

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Write something about your favorite radio, a clever deal, a masterful restoration, a swell swap meet. Send old pictures (we won't hurt 'em) of people and their radios. We can use before and after pictures and stories to go with them.

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HI! I'm looking for a schematic for a GE X216A table top wood cabinet radio, possibly a 1948-49 model. Also need a ballast tube (RR7013). This radio has "Made in the USA" on the back, but also Spanish writing below. Call 439-5955, if not home leave a message. Thanks, STEVEN STRAPACH.

If you are interested in displaying any of your old radios or radio related gear in the Pine, AZ Historical Museum for a few days, please contact Andy Ooms, (520) 476-6124, or email me at oomspine@cybertrails.com. The exhibit idea is tentative, meaning it is not guaranteed to happen.

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TUBE COLLECTOR'S ASSOCIATION: Started by dedicated collector/historians, this group is international in scope, nonprofit, and noncommercial. It addresses tubes of all vintages and types. For a membership application and sample copy of *Tube Collector*, please contact the club at PO Box 1181 Medford, OR 97501. Details are also available from AL JONES, W1ITX, (707) 464-6470 or LUDWELL SIBLEY (541) 855-5207.

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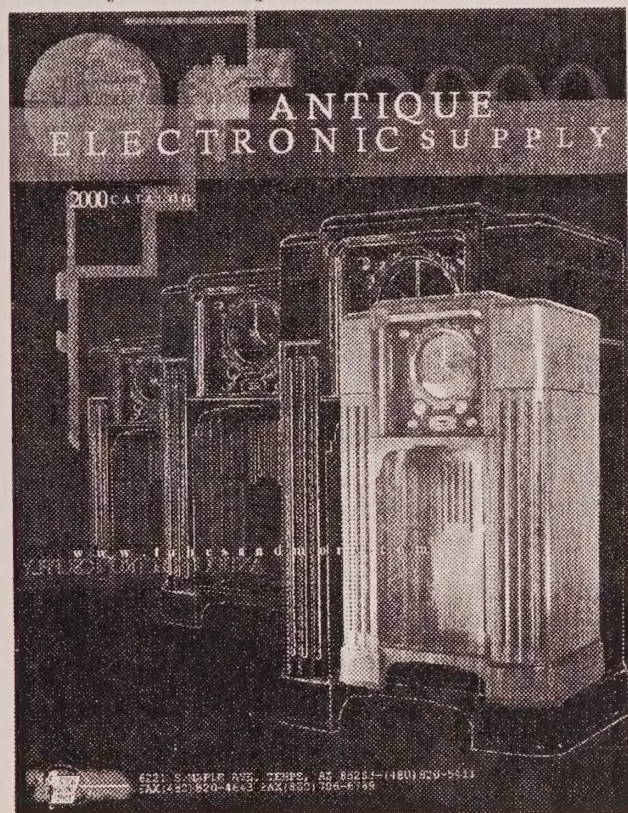
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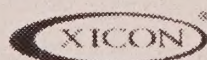


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to these
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when I said:



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Here are a few ideas to get you going:

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- Your first radio
- Great and impossible finds you have made
- Tips for making finds
- Tips for new collectors*
- Great finds that turned sour
- Tips to avoid making finds that turn sour
- Interviews or visits to club members

Experiences:

- How you got started in radio
- Experiences in radio's early days
- Early Arizona radio: stations, manufacturers, stores, personalities
- Interviews of radio pioneers
- Job experiences relating to radio

Technical:

- Cabinet restoration tips*
- Chassis repair tips*
- Great and impossible restorations
- Electronics for the beginning collector*

Technical help in question and answer format*

History:

- History of a set, a company or a station
- Development of circuits, tubes or components
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Photos:

- Unusual sets
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- Interesting radio related places visited

Commentary:

- The state of the hobby
- Letters to the editor
- Comments about articles seen
- Comments about the Radio Club News
- Opinions about prices

Items marked * could be subjects for regular features, if you are willing to make a commitment. Submissions can be typed or on computer disk (any format is OK), or emailed. Call or write the editor:

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lettow@yahoo.com

